

Pentecost Sunday

24th May 2026



*They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak. Acts 2*



This Sunday sees the Church mark the solemnity when we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to the frightened and reclusive apostles who had hidden themselves away after Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension. The Holy Spirit brought courage and the gift of tongues which, in turn, brought about the Church to which we belong today.

The Spirit, who fired the apostles and who enthused St Paul, is the same Spirit who fires and enthuses us. The Spirit does that in our own mundane attempts to work at forgiveness and love and understanding. That is the language of the Spirit. Forgiveness, love and understanding form a language that everyone understands and needs to hear, no matter our nationality. That is the language we are invited to speak and the promise is that when we speak it, people will recognise it as their own language. They can truly say that we are speaking their language because it is the language which has no boundaries, and no special dictionaries are needed to understand it. It is the language of the Spirit. It is the call of the honourable bird. The question is whether we are allowing the Holy Spirit to work through us so that we share that language with everyone we encounter. Are we answering this bird's call?



**This week let us pray for:**

- ◆ the support of the Holy Spirit in the delivery of Jesus' message;
- ◆ those that are ill;
- ◆ peaceful solutions for the current wars;
- ◆ all those connected to our community who are unwell, upset or mourning.

**“The Spirit is the wind pushing us forward, keeping us going, that makes us feel like pilgrims and foreigners and doesn't allow us to get comfortable and become sedentary.” Pope Francis**

**Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.**

Spirit of God, Lord, who dwells in my heart and in the heart of the Church, guiding and shaping her in diversity, come!

Like water, we need you to live.

Come down upon us anew. Teach us unity, renew our hearts and teach us to love as you love us, to forgive as you forgive us.

Amen

